

VZCZCXR09082

PP RUEHBC RUEHDE RUEHIHL RUEHKUK

DE RUEHAK #1985 2141025

ZNY CCCCC ZZH

P 021025Z AUG 07

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3245

INFO RUCNRAQ/IRAQ COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC PRIORITY

RUEHAK/USDAO ANKARA TU PRIORITY

RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY

RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC//USDP:PDUSDP/ISA:EUR/ISA:NESA// PRIORITY

RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY

RUEUITH/ODC ANKARA TU PRIORITY

RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC//J-3/J-5// PRIORITY

RUFOADA/JAC MOLESWORTH RAF MOLESWORTH UK PRIORITY

RHMFIISS/HQ USEUCOM VAIHINGEN GE PRIORITY

RHMFIISS/HQ USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY

RHMFIISS/425ABS IZMIR TU//CC// PRIORITY

RHMFIISS/39ABG INCIRLIK AB TU PRIORITY

RUEPGAB/MNF-I C2X BAGHDAD IZ PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 001985

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 08/02/2017

TAGS: PREL PTER IZ TU

SUBJECT: TURKEY: PUSHING FOR DIALOGUE WITH THE KRG

REF: A. ANKARA 1959

1B. BAGHDAD 2422

Classified By: Charge Nancy McEldowney for reasons 1.4(b) and (d)

11. (C) Charge told Iraq Coordinator Celikkol August 1 that Turkey needed to expand its contacts with the GOI and to establish dialogue with the Kurdish Regional Government (KRG). She noted that KRG authorities possess the capability to take action against the PKK and continuing to refuse contact with Massoud Barzani is counter productive. She added that USG officials have been urging Barzani to take concrete steps to counter the PKK in northern Iraq, as well as to refrain from remarks that enflame the Turkish public.

12. (C) Charge noted several possible opportunities, including on the margins of an Arab League meeting in early September, at UNGA, and an Expanded Neighbors Ministerial, where GOT officials might be able to meet with KRG counterparts who attend as part of a GOI delegation. She urged that they take advantage of such opportunities and move forward with meetings with KRG officials.

13. (C) Celikkol agreed the GOT must eventually engage directly with KRG leadership. However, this was a political decision for Minister Gul. He noted that PM Maliki could make such a step much easier for Turkey by publicly condemning PKK terrorism during his August 7 visit to Ankara.

Visit Ankara's Classified Web Site at
<http://www.state.sgov.gov/p/eur/ankara/>

MCELDOWNEY